

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman**

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MEDIA NOTE

RESULTS OF DV-2008 VISA LOTTERY

The Kentucky Consular Center in Williamsburg, Kentucky, has registered and notified the winners of the DV-2008 diversity lottery. The diversity lottery was conducted under the terms of section 203(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act and makes available *50,000 permanent resident visas annually to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Approximately 96,000 applicants have been registered and notified and may now make an application for an immigrant visa. Since it is likely that some of the first *50,000 persons registered will not pursue their cases to visa issuance, this larger figure should insure that all DV-2008 numbers will be used during fiscal year 2008 (October 1, 2007 until September 30, 2008).

Applicants registered for the DV-2008 program were selected at random from over 6.4 million qualified entries received during the 60-day application period that ran from 12:00 AM on October 4, 2006, until midnight, December 3, 2006. The visas have been apportioned among six geographic regions with a maximum of seven percent available to persons born in any single country. During the visa interview, principal applicants must provide proof of a high school education or its equivalent, or show two years of work experience in an occupation that requires at least two years of training or experience within the past five years. Those selected will need to act on their immigrant visa applications quickly. Applicants should follow the instructions in their notification letter and must fully complete the information requested.

Registrants living legally in the United States who wish to apply for adjustment of their status must contact the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services for information on the requirements and procedures. Once the total *50,000 visa numbers have been used, the program for fiscal year 2008 will end. Selected applicants who do not receive visas by September 30, 2008 will derive no further benefit from their DV-2008 registration. Similarly, spouses and children accompanying or following to join DV-2008 principal applicants are only entitled to derivative diversity visa status until September 30, 2008.

The application period for the DV-2009 lottery ends at 12:00 pm Eastern time on December 2, 2007. Applicants must apply electronically through the form available at dvlottery.state.gov. Results will be announced in the fall of 2008.

* The Nicaraguan and Central American Relief Act (NACARA) passed by Congress in November 1997 stipulated that up to 5,000 of the 55,000 annually-allocated diversity visas be made available for use under the NACARA program. The reduction of the limit of available visas to 50,000 began with DV-2000.

The following is the statistical breakdown by foreign-state chargeability of those registered for the DV-2008 program:

AFRICA		
ALGERIA 1,926	ETHIOPIA 5,241	NIGER 165
ANGOLA 27	GABON 37	NIGERIA 8,773
BENIN 438	GAMBIA, THE 57	RWANDA 138
BOTSWANA 22	GHANA 5,914	SENEGAL 917
BURKINA FASO 186	GUINEA 463	SIERRA LEONE 1,137
BURUNDI 39	GUINEA-BISSAU 4	SOMALIA 214
CAMEROON 3,152	KENYA 4,547	SOUTH AFRICA 713
CAPE VERDE 13	LESOTHO 4	SUDAN 1,147
CENTRAL AFRICAN REP. 8	LIBERIA 2,148	SWAZILAND 4
CHAD 47	LIBYA 88	TANZANIA 218
COMOROS 5	MADAGASCAR 43	TOGO 1,509
CONGO 1,206	MALAWI 53	TUNISIA 150
CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE 111	MALI 171	UGANDA 370
COTE D'IVOIRE 614	MAURITANIA 27	WESTERN SAHARA 1
DJIBOUTI 20	MAURITIUS 62	ZAMBIA 214
EGYPT 4,392	MOROCCO 5,017	ZIMBABWE 167
EQUATORIAL GUINEA 7	MOZAMBIQUE 8	
ERITREA 878	NAMIBIA 12	

ASIA		
AFGHANISTAN 57	ISRAEL 150	QATAR 6
BAHRAIN 11	JAPAN 382	SAUDI ARABIA 61

BANGLADESH 5,983	JORDAN 56	SINGAPORE 70
BHUTAN 10	NORTH KOREA 4	SRI LANKA 675
BRUNEI 2	KUWAIT 46	SYRIA 94
BURMA 653	LAOS 7	THAILAND 108
CAMBODIA 187	LEBANON 190	TAIWAN 446
HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMIN. REGION 69	MALAYSIA 87	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 27
INDONESIA 266	MONGOLIA 259	YEMEN 70
IRAN 1,435	NEPAL 2,562	
IRAQ 164	OMAN 5	

EUROPE		
ALBANIA 2,862	GERMANY 1,469	NORTHERN IRELAND 34
ANDORRA 1	GREECE 77	NORWAY 43
ARMENIA 1,130	HUNGARY 182	PORTUGAL 48 Macau 19
AUSTRIA 70	ICELAND 13	ROMANIA 1,526
AZERBAIJAN 271	IRELAND 162	SERBIA 557
BELARUS 1,072	ITALY 363	SLOVAKIA 157
BELGIUM 89	KAZAKHSTAN 304	SLOVENIA 12
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA 73	KYRGYZSTAN 180	SPAIN 135
BULGARIA 1,567	LATVIA 75	SWEDEN 118
CROATIA 41	LITHUANIA 334	SWITZERLAND 132
CYPRUS 16	LUXEMBOURG 12	TAJIKISTAN 126
CZECH REPUBLIC 158	MACEDONIA 343	TURKEY 2,188
DENMARK 58	MALTA 5	TURKMENISTAN 124
ESTONIA 37	MOLDOVA 474	UKRAINE 5,018

FINLAND 59	MONACO 4	UZBEKISTAN 3,101
FRANCE 603 French Guiana 6 French Polynesia 6 Guadeloupe 4 Martinique 4	MONTENEGRO 22	
GEORGIA 516	NETHERLANDS 123 Aruba 8 Netherlands Antilles 18	

NORTH AMERICA
BAHAMAS, THE 17

OCEANIA		
AUSTRALIA 649	NEW ZEALAND 260 Niue 5	SAMOA 27
FIJI 630	PALAU 7	SOLOMON ISLANDS 2
KIRIBATI 9	PAPUA NEW GUINEA 4	TONGA 120

SOUTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND THE CARIBBEAN		
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA 1	DOMINICA 9	PARAGUAY 26
ARGENTINA 106	ECUADOR 217	SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS 1
BARBADOS 17	GRENADA 1	SAINT LUCIA 5
BELIZE 14	GUATEMALA 74	SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES 1

BOLIVIA 148	GUYANA 24	SURINAME 3
CHILE 26	HONDURAS 42	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 82
COSTA RICA 22	NICARAGUA 39	URUGUAY 23
CUBA 691	PANAMA 17	VENEZUELA 256

Natives of the following countries were not eligible to participate in DV-2008: Brazil, Canada, China (mainland-born, excluding Hong Kong S.A.R. and Taiwan), Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, South Korea, the United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland) and its dependent territories, and Vietnam.